REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 6, and 7 have been amended. On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,146,552 (Cassorla) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,561,446 (Montlick).

Cassorla is directed to allowing a writer or an editor of an electronic document to add marks so that document elements such as chapter, section, subsection, paragraph and drawings can be identified. The reference also discusses a configuration in which a reader can add a pinpoint annotation at a specific line or word. More specifically, a user can specify where in a document to insert a bookmark and/or highlight by specifying a position to insert using a pointing device such as a mouse. Further, it discloses that the line number, writer identification, date information and the like are added to a text and are stored in a file or partition of a file on a host system.

Montlick is directed to a method and system for wireless remote information retrieval and pen-based data entry including a central computer system having a relatively large storage capacity and/or access to relatively large storage devices. According to Montlick, one or more portable pen-based computers are provided with wireless communication capability for connecting with a central computer system through the wireless network. The central computer system is provided with software for accessing a plurality of digitally stored forms and transmitting those forms to the pen-based computers in response to selection requests from the pen-based computers.

The present invention includes a handwriting pen-track identification part that uses pattern recognition technology to identify the kind of shape classification for the pen-track data (underlines, data enclosures, checkmarks (handwritten marks), handwritten letters). The present invention also enables searching based on attribute data (line thickness, color or level of transparency), size of pen-track data or input data. Therefore, in the present invention, it is possible to search based on the combination of the type of shape classification, attribute data or size of pen-track data by using the handwriting pen-track identification part.

In the "Response to Arguments" section, on page 11 of the Office Action, the Examiner alleged that Montlick teaches, "receiving, displaying, and storing electronic ink as additional information to text and graphics." The Examiner further alleged that, "in order to receive, display, and store the handwriting input, it is required that the input be enabled."

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Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, for example, is patentable over the references, as neither Cassorla nor Montlick, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests, "properties information including attribute information included in the additional information including line color, level of transparency, and line thickness or other properties data of the additional information such as a shape classification, size, or date and time of input," as recited in the claim.

Although Montlick discloses data input, Montlick fails to disclose or suggest searching based on the combination of the type of shape classification, attribute data or size of pen-track data by using a handwriting pen-track identification part as in the present invention.

In contrast to the present invention, Cassorla clearly states that, "the first annotation string record 28' is accessed from the annotation string record partition 24 of the memory 22, by searching for the coordinates "1001" of the paragraph 40." *See* Cassorla, column 9, lines 29-32. Therefore, in contrast to the present invention, Cassorla searches the annotation string record based on the coordinates of the paragraph with which the annotated string is associated and does not disclose or suggest searching based on the combination of the type of shape classification, attribute data or size of pen-track data by using a handwriting pen-track identification part as in the present invention.

As Montlick does not add any relevant information to Cassorla, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 6, and 7 are patentable over the references, as neither Montlick nor Cassorla, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the above-identified feature of the present invention.

As dependent claims 2-5 depend from independent claim 1, the dependent claims are patentable over the references for at least the reasons presented for the independent claims.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.
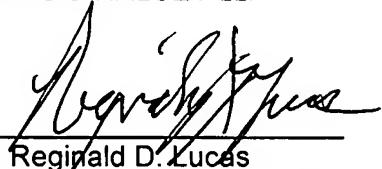
Respectfully submitted,

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